

Let's Get Outside to Play!



Spring Camp Dates

Spring Camp will be held at Getz School for registered families on the following dates:

March 9	8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
March 10	8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
March 11	8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
March 12	8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
March 13	8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Extended care will be available from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for children currently enrolled in extended care.

Please refer to your Family Camp Guide for more information about how to make your child's camp experience a happy one!



Most of us consider “education” as a formal, indoor process. However, outdoor activity provides children with lots of sensory experiences that promote curiosity and exploration – important skills for kindergarten readiness. Nature helps to engage the whole child, which makes it an excellent teaching environment for fostering cognitive, social, emotional and physical development. With our spring weather offering lots of time be outdoors – consider ways you and your child can get outside to play!

Plant a garden = Kids develop math skills when they learn to identify, count and sort different types of plants and seeds. A simple observation of water flowing through a hose teaches basic physics. And the unpredictability of the natural world teaches creativity and problem solving.

Watch the clouds or check out the stars at night = Kids who are good observers exhibit better concentration, ability to stay on task, motor coordination and agility. They also engage in more creative and cooperative play with peers.

Fly a kite, play tag, swing on the swings = Some studies have found that unstructured outdoor play teaches kids to get along better with peers and access to green spaces may improve their impulse control and strengthen their ability to delay gratification and cope with upsetting events. And most of all HAVE FUN ☺



City of Tempe Activities for the Family

Tempe Community Complex 3500 S. Rural Road

- **Geek's Night Out** - Wednesday, March 18, 4:30 - 7:30 p.m.
An electrifying fusion of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math; Free Family Fun, Hands-On Activities, Live Demonstrations, Music & Entertainment.
- **Tempe Human Services Day**— Saturday, March 21, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Enjoy a day of fun and learning with info booths, food, music, a fun zone for kids and much more at this FREE event. Come learn about programs and services that can help you and your family!

Teacher Spotlight

Meet Lucila Perez

Tempe PRE Preschool Teacher at Aguilar Elementary

Education: Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and Special Education.

- ❖ **What I wish more parents knew:** Parents are a child's first teachers and role models. As a parent of a preschooler, showing an interest in activities such as reading or exploring nature can initiate your child's early love of learning. Parents serve as role models not only through direct interactions with their children, but through the examples they set with their attitude and behavior within the family and in the outside world.
- ❖ **My favorite activity in the classroom:** Dramatic Play. I love to see how my students use dramatic play to explore their own thoughts and feelings. Dramatic play gives them the opportunity in my classroom to sort through difficult emotions and practice being in the world. I believe playtime is essential to a child's development because young children are learning by imagining and doing.
- ❖ **What I hope you will do at home:** Be more involved in the children's education. Some of a child's most important cognitive development happens during their preschool years. Parents who are involved with what is happening in their child's preschool classroom are better able to establish a connection between what is learned at school and what takes place in the home. This connection is a key component of a child's development to support their further learning.



Tempe PRE Important Dates

*Reverification for returning families (current students and age-eligible siblings) will occur in April - June

*Summer Sessions I & II will begin registration March 23

Tempe Elementary District Important Dates

March 3, 4, 5 – Parent Teacher Conferences; Early Release

March 9 – 13 – Spring Break; Schools Closed

Kyrene School District Important Dates

March 9 – 13 – Spring Break; Schools Closed

March 16 – Teacher Day; Schools Closed